

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method to operate user equipment (UE) in a Site Selection Diversity Transmit mode, comprising:

detecting a case where no base station is transmitting to the UE;

inserting predetermined values into a received signal; and

decoding the predetermined values.

2. A method as in claim 1, where the predetermined values correspond to zero bits.

3. User equipment (UE) operable in a Site Selection Diversity Transmit mode, comprising:

means for detecting a case where no base station is transmitting to the UE;

means for inserting predetermined values into a received signal; and

means for decoding the predetermined values.

4. User equipment as in claim 3, where the predetermined values correspond to zero bits.

5. A method to operate a user equipment (UE) in a Site Selection Diversity Transmit mode of a WCDMA wireless communications system, comprising:

selecting a primary cell;

transmitting an identification of the primary cell (Cell ID) using Feedback Information (FI) bits on a Dedicated Physical Control Channel (DPCCH);

in response to detecting a case where the selected primary cell fails to transmit a downlink Dedicated Physical Channel (DPCH) to the UE, inserting predetermined sample values into the output of a UE receiver prior to a UE channel decoder; and

decoding the predetermined sample values as zero bits so as to maintain proper channel decoder operation.

6. A user equipment (UE) operable in a Site Selection Diversity Transmit mode of a wireless communications system, comprising:

a radio frequency transceiver comprising a transmitter and a receiver;

a decoder having an input coupled to an output of said receiver; and

a controller coupled to the transceiver, said controller operating to select a primary cell for the UE and to transmit, via said transmitter, an identification of the primary cell (Cell ID) using Feedback Information (FI) bits on a Dedicated Physical Control Channel (DPCCH); said controller being responsive to the selected primary cell failing to transmit a downlink Dedicated Physical Channel (DPCH) to the UE to insert predetermined sample values into said input of said channel decoder such that said decoder decodes the predetermined sample values as zero bits.

7. A UE as in claim 6, where said wireless communications system comprises a code division multiple access system, where said receiver comprises at least one finger for demodulating a received signal, and where said controller detects that the selected primary cell has failed to transmit the downlink DPCH to the UE by assigning the at least one finger to demodulate the DPCH, and determining that too little energy is present in the at least one finger that is assigned to demodulate the DPCH.